

Message Text

SECRET

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ACTION NODS-00

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /001 W

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O 221803Z JAN 76 ZFF-4

FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7103

S E C R E T PARIS 02127

NODIS

DEPARTMENT PLEASE PASS SECRETARY'S PARTY AND, IF
DESIRED TO AMEMBASSIES DAMASCUS, BEIRUT, JIDDA AND
CAIRO

FOR THE SECRETARY FROM THE AMBASSADOR

E.O. 11652: XGDF-3

TAGS: PFOR, LE

SUBJECT: LEBANESE SITUATION

REFS: (A) PARIS 1870; (B) PARIS 1979

1. I HEARD FROM THE ELYSEE TODAY THAT, AS A RESULT OF
MY CONVERSATION WITH SAUVAGNARGUES JANUARY 20 (REFTELS),
THE FRENCH GOVERNMENT IS ACTIVELY CASTING ABOUT FOR
POSSIBLE WAYS OF APPROACHING THE LEBANESE PROBLEM IN
PREPARATION FOR SAUVAGNARGUES' MEETING WITH YOU
TOMORROW.

2. SO FAR, THE MOST PROMISING IDEA SEEMS TO BE FOR
FRANCE TO ATTEMPT TO ARRANGE A CONCERTED POLITICAL
EFFORT INVOLVING KEY COUNTRIES INFLUENTIAL IN LEBANON.
AT A MINIMUM, SUCH AN EFFORT WOULD REQUIRE THE INVOLVE-
MENT OF SYRIA, EGYPT AND SAUDI ARABIA. IF POSSIBLE,
OTHERS WOULD BE INCLUDED. THE PLAN WOULD PROCEED IN
TWO PHASES. AS A FIRST STEP THESE COUNTRIES WOULD BE
ASKED TO EXERT THEIR INFLUENCE TO LAY THE BASIS FOR A
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MEDIATION EFFORT, WHICH WOULD BE THE SECOND PHASE.

SO FAR THE FRENCH GOVERNMENT DOES NOT APPEAR TO HAVE ANY
CLEAR OR PRECONCEIVED IDEAS AS TO HOW OR BY WHOM SUCH A
MEDIATION EFFORT SHOULD BE MADE. MOREOVER, THE FRENCH
GOVERNMENT IS NOT YET COMMITTED TO THIS OR ANY OTHER
PLAN PENDING SAUVAGNARGUES' DISCUSSION WITH YOU.
RUSH

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NNN

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